

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1122

By Russell

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Sergeant Christopher Allen "Chris" Jenkins of the Loudon County Sheriff's Office.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were stunned and greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Sergeant Christopher Allen "Chris" Jenkins of the Loudon County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Jenkins gave his life in the line of duty on February 3, 2022, when he was killed by an impaired driver while removing a traffic hazard from Interstate 75 in Loudon County; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Jenkins possessed a strong work ethic and a positive attitude, and his last day on earth mirrored every work day before it in that he was faithfully protecting and serving the good people of Loudon County to the best of his considerable abilities; and

WHEREAS, a twenty-year veteran of the Loudon County Sheriff's Office, Sgt. Jenkins was a respected deputy, supervisor, and colleague; he was loyal to his fellow deputies, and he was greatly admired by them in return; and

WHEREAS, a decorated veteran of the U.S. Air Force, Chris Jenkins began his illustrious law enforcement career with the Loudon County Sheriff's Office on April 20, 2002, as a corrections officer; and

WHEREAS, he moved to patrol on August 31, 2003, and on March 12, 2004, he graduated from the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy, the same day his first cousin, Loudon County Deputy Jason Michael Scott, was tragically killed in the line of duty responding to a domestic incident; and

WHEREAS, a K-9 handler since 2008, Sgt. Jenkins was adept at his duties and enjoyed his job immensely; in addition to their law enforcement functions, he and his canine partners, the late Diego (2007-2015) and Déjà Vu, were very popular at community events; and

WHEREAS, Déjà Vu is continuing their legacy by working with Sgt. Jenkins' son, Clay, who followed in his father's footsteps to serve as a police officer and is now training to become a K-9 handler with the Loudon County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, Chris Jenkins expressed his faith as a member of Fellowship Baptist Church in Lenoir City; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Sgt. Jenkins was a devoted father to his children, Clay and Chloe, and he and his son exchanged hugs every work day during shift change; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Chris Jenkins brought great credit to the badge and uniform of the Loudon County Sheriff's Office, and it is only fitting that we should pay tribute to his bountiful life on this sad occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Sergeant Christopher Allen "Chris" Jenkins of the Loudon County Sheriff's Office, reflecting fondly upon his enduring legacy as a dedicated law enforcement officer who lost his life while proudly serving his community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend our sympathy and condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Sgt. Jenkins.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.